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stered at the Postoffice at Fairmont, West Virginia, as

beefbers on our carrier routes falling to get The Western Union."

the fast and give name and residence and a messenger diliver a paner to your door at once. There is no re to the subscriber for this service.

TUESDAY EVENING, JULY 9, 1918.



uniting we stand, by dividing we fall. en join in hanas, brave Americans ail,

VALE, THE INDEPENDENT 'PHONE CO'S. HE final chapter of a mighty interesting episode in the husiness development of the country will be written when the independent telephone companies of the try surrender their charters, as those in this state will

a few weeks. For a variety of reasons the inde-nt companies could not survive except here and there within a few weeks. For a survive except here and there where they are stronger than the companies affiliated with the Bell interests, but it is not too much to say that they made the telephone the commonplace of our daily life which it now is. At the rate at which the old companies were going it would have taken them a quarter of a century to reach the development which they took on in a quinquennium after the independents began to enter the discounting after the independents began to enter the field, and that supplies the basis for a reasonably accurate attents of the great service the pioneer independent telephone men rendered the country.

And those were the days of real service, those days in

which the new companies were beginning to put phones in residences and bring the farms and the other remote places into instant touch with the world. Some of the independent squipment was not up to the mark set by the old com-panies, but before long they were compelling the Bell to open up its safe and bring out the little devices the patent rights for which it owned but which it did not think it good ss to use because to use them would cost money.

The stimulus which the independents gave the whole elephone situation in time swelled the revenues of the old companies to unbelievable proportions. They became financial giants and as they had had the wisdom in the mean time to get rid of a lot of the haughty incompetents who were keeping the telephone away from the people they were able to put the little fellows out of business in various ways. Pretty soon this movement will come to an end and we will again have a telephone monopoly—if the government does not gobble all wire service before that

Whether the public would be entirely happy with such Whether the public would be entirely happy with such a state of affairs may be doubted honestly. It is contended that the control which public service commissions now have over telephones will prevent the rates from ever again becoming excessive, but no public service commission can entirely keep service from deteriorating if in the absence of competition the officers of the corporation are not a little more than usually vigilant to serve their public. Already in this state there is a vast amount of dissatisfaction over the quality of service which the telephone company is giving. Responsibility for much of this can be traced to the extraordinary strain which the telephone company has been under since the United States entered the war, but a lot of it would be eliminated if the good old spur "take my phone out" could be applied to it in a convincing way.

phone out" could be applied to it in a convincing way.

But perhaps after the war is over the higher officers of the companies will have some time to devote to this phase of the telephone business, so let's all be as happy as we can about the going of the independent companies and the seation of a new telephone monopoly upon a much vaster

NOMINATE STRONG MEN.

TERE is not much popular interest in politics now and there is not going to be a great deal. Nevertheless the campaign which was officially opened Saturday the filing of petitions for places on the primary ballots important one in some of its aspects. One of these is momination and subsequent election of members of the use of Delegates and for state senators. Membership on various boards of education also will be more important an it has been in the past for the next few years, and he voters should exercise care in voting at the primaries a order that their tickets may have worthy nominees for

The next West Virginia Legislature in common with the

the human wracks which the war will send back to us. These man will have to be reeducated vecationally and restored to a position of usefulness in society. Some of stored to a position of includes in secrety.

In will be so broken in health that long courses of treatment will be necessary. Then something in keeping with a spirit of the times will have to be done for the orphans ad widows of the men who will never return. Provision will have to be made for carrying on the present activities of the state government upon the new basis which the war inflation has produced, and there will be many other things that will have to be taken care of.

All of this means that there will have to be larger rev erues, which have to come from better systems of laying taxes. We must also spend the money more intelligently. The Governor and the Executive Council of Defense may be depended upon to lead in this matter, but if we are to acquit ourselves well we will have to send big men to the legislature, both branches of it, and the place to begin to pick that type of men is at the primaries. Both parties should make an effort not only in Marion county, but roughout the state to nominate men who are capable of doing their own thinking and with such a grasp upon large after that they will not become frightened with the magnitude of the task before them when they get to Charleston lutch at the coat tails of some boss for safety. That at has made the legislatures the feeble bodies they are. It is this more than any other one thing have to thank for the concentration of power and ty at Washington. The legislatures abdicated in they get it all?" No, it is not very prerepresentatives of interests of various kinds and as possessing viewed from across the favor of representatives of interests of various kinds and as possessing viewed from across there had to be government the one at Washington stepped which is usually supposed to "lend eninto the breach. If the legislatures that meet this winter chantment" does not give any insight throughout the country do not do their obvious duty about the things that the war has created the government at Washington by this time next year will be telling the states what they must do, and in a way which will admit of no usually considered Hoult is the village.

So let's handle this thing in the right way and see to that only the best men are sent to the legislature.

IMPORTANT BUT NOT THE SAME.

T may be that the London papers are correct in their judgment that the assassination at Moscow of the German ambasador is an event of such importance that it is comparable to the murder of Archduke Francis Ferdinand, but it would be extremely surprising if effect were to follow cause in the same swift way.

We now know that for a long time Germany was anxious to take advantage of some incident that would make war possible. The Potsdam conspirators thought they were all ready to give the world the most disagreeable surprise it ever had. Developments proved that they were very much mistaken and that it was they who got the surprise, but that is a detail which has no bearing upon the present

The Germans were ready to move in 1914 and they did move. Neither the Russians nor the Germans are now prepared to move with regard to the new situation which has been created in Russia. Yet the murder of an ambasador, while by no means unknown, is a decidedly serious affair and great matters may be the result. As we await developments there will be some comfort in knowing that the cool headed gentlemen at Washington, London and Paris will be keeping just as close watch as those at

The first report of the Price Interpretation committee appointed by Federal Food Administrator Rosier is prited this afternoon. It takes but a glance at it to see that the work of this committee will not materially reduce prices, but it will have the effect of making prices Stevens near King uniform if the consumers are enough interested in the matter to see to it that retailers who make charges different than those in the list are reported promptly. Study the list carefully and act promptly if there is the least indication on the part of your retailer to ignore it.

Mrs. S. J. Stevens.

Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Michael spent knows it and I wouldn't have told the Fourth with Mr. and Mrs. Mac you except that I know you won't McFarland, of Pt Marlon, Pa.

Yesterday the government instituted a suit for perjury against the majority owner of a New York newspaper who is accused of holding his stock for the Imperial German government, while for some time another New York paper has been under fire because of its warm friendship for the Germans and its open hostility for the governments associated with the United States in the war upon Germany. Of course it does not make much Lee Baker at Weston.

difference, but there is reason to suspect that we have! The many friends of Mrs. Delbert a touch of Boloism in this country and for the principle of the thing it ought to be rooted out no matter who is

Late dispatches from the other side indicate that the Germans may undertake a march on Moscow as reprisal for the murder of the German ambassador. The nearest German military column appears to be about 300 miles from the ancient capital of the Russians. That is not a great distance, but marches on Moscow have been known to be attended with disaster, and it is altogether probable that if the Germans do start an army in that direction they will again start something they cannot

All signs now indicate that this will be a bone dry nation from the beginning of next year to the end of the war, and it is pretty safe to bet that if we get rid of the saloons and the booze traffic generally for that length of time there never will be a comeback. The legislation which will bring about prohibitoin as a war measure has been agreed to in committee and it is as certain as anything can well be that it will be passed by both houses when it comes up for action.

The Australians who occupy positions on both sides of the Somme river made another advance yesterday, but neither in Italy or on the West front did the Teutons make a move-that is to say, no movement for-

SHORT AND SNAPPY

You have heard about the man without a country, but how about Russia—the country without a man?—Uniontown Evening Genius.

islatures of other states is going to face problems and common with the possibilities of an entirely new sort next winter. Profon will have to be made, for instance, for the care of ling News.

"I do the best I can for the government," said Charles Schwab to a meeting of shipwrights the other day. If everybody follows his example, all will be well.—Wheeling News.

product.

It was real news.

If likker was not so high in price and hard to get these cold nights would make an excellent excuse for hoisting a few hooters aboard.

If it keeps up much longer the tors will have to announce sales of V. D. and sich like stuff to make

hit cheer up, maybe the Weather And the Cincinnati brand did more is fast arranging the weather so to make the country dry than all the

that there will be an extra month of temperance preaching that ever oc-

Old Man Foch may want to use a long summer in the business of pound- cinnati is better than the home made ing the tar out of the Teuts.

"Had fatal attack while shopping."-Headline.

You bet, prices have got to the point where only those with good con-stitutions are entirely safe.

Home made whiskey killed a man up at Laura Lee mine.

factory kind.

When it comes to skie stick to the

perfectly legal now. The nolitical pot is boiling

Even the stuff they make at Cin-

Lamp in the papers that some one

"took" a straw hat at a restaurant yes-

What in the world would any one want a straw hat for in this frigid

Wonder if the Gang will string a

banner across Main street this time?

Probably not, because it would be

But it is likely to be a sad cans-

With boose at present gices there went be much ground even if the city gove loca let the bare down to the as it did two years ago.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HOW HOULT SIZES UP.

HOULT, W. Va., July 8.—[Editor The West Virginian.] — Hoult is a small and rather insignificant, stragling along between the river and the Hickman run branch of the B. & O. Probably if it was not for the governnent lock and dam and the big B. & O. bridge over the river people would forget there is such a place.

Mr. W. J. Wiegel expressed it to the writer in speaking of the amount raised here for the Red Cross when he said "I came by on the street car yes terday and looking across the river from the car window I said "Where did usually considered Hoult is the village of that name and small farms surrounding it and getting their mail at the Hoult postoffice, in all not over forty families, less than two hundred population.

There are no really wealthy people and but very few considered fairly well fixed. Almost to a family they make their livings in mines and on the railroad. Yet they contributed to the second Red Cross drive over \$600 which is more than \$3 for each man, woman and child and bought or pledge for \$4,645 worth of W. S. stamps. Nearly \$25 or five stamps for each man, woman and child. Alto, there is owned here approximately \$7,000 worth of Liberty bonds although this is largely estimated by some of the people here. The other figures are

Hoult has also sent to the war six of her young men, four of them volunteers. Besides that two young fellows from Hoult enlisted and were ent back because too young and another, a draftee, was returned for physical reasons.

In the face of all these facts it is umiliating to admit that. Hoult has wo or three slackers who care nothing for country and will not help in war work but the other citizens are really ashamed of this. J. D. B.

LAURE! POINT

pant a few days last week. John W. Williams and family were guests of friends at Tunnelton the

nere last Sunday to visit his mother,

Moines, Iowa, are visiting relatives

George W. Snider, wife and son Dana, and Miss Mary Stevens went to about the price of various grocaries. Kingwood the 7th to visit at the home A woman not long ago told another Kingwood the 7th to visit at the home of John L. Stevens.

Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Thorn and granddaughter, Neva Henry, left last Wednesday for a visit at the home of

Newbraugh will be giad to learn that she is recovering nicely from a recent operation at the City Hospital for ap-

J. H. Thompson went Sunday for a visit with Mrs. Thompson, who has been seriously ill for two years past, and reports that her condition is much

July 9th, 1918.

COURTNEYS' STORE NEWS

You Should See The Magic of Our New Our Millinery is Always of the Class Which Shows Unmistakab iginality of Ideas— And Our Prices Always Right.

Most for the Money

It is the general rule of this store, at all seasons, to give the maximum quality at the minimum price, therby fortifying its customers against inflated prices. But there are certain times, like end-of -season or between-seasons, when it is desirable to close our surplus stock, that prices are reduced even less than the minimum of normal

customers will find it to their advantage to follow carefully our daily offering. Stocks must be cleared out with the least possible loss of time and in order to accomplish this, unusual savings must prevail on all goods.

July is one of those times and

New Arrivals in-White Wash Skirts, Sweaters and Hosiery will certainly interest you.

True Values

New Hats for Summer and Fall In Nev

are most attractive and will surely want one the ment you see them. hats of feathers with wing effects and me models of satin and (gette, some with tran ent brims, while others as more substantial looking.

One of the most att tive features of this collection is the price. \$4.50 to \$875

Dahlia Hats of

Satin and Velvt-New York, are eliciting the highest praise from those who have seen them. You will hear a lot about

\$9.75 to \$15.00

For Your Pecketback's Cake Sure to Inspect Our Offering at Final Prices of Our Summer Hats.

All are greatly votuced conservative models of blac white Milan that will be go

Courtneys' 108-110 Main S

Some very funny experiences in the city are a result of many people on one telehone line. Last evening a genthe tempered little woman took down her recal and waited several mom-ones for central to answer. Finally she heard: "Now, wouldn't that jar you—somebody's alway's on this line when I want it!" Very much embarrassed she put up the receiver and walted ten minutes and again she could not use the line. This was what she heard: "Put it up! Put it up! Get off the line! The nerve of some people-listening!" Somtime later tried again and heard: "There are again, I can always tell when someone wants the line. You just hold your end and we'll talk as long as we like!"

Evening Chat

Occasionally listening on the line may be resorted to by few but as a rule Fairmont women are to busy to bother. Often one picks up the receiver to find someone talking but this is unavoidable and not done to hear any private conversation; though remaks. Recently a woman was heard to say over the line: "Now, don't you tell a soul what I have told you for no-one else in all the world Mr. and Mrs. Clark Cole, of Des to hear this bit of secret information, olnes, Iowa, are visiting relatives though to people that I know, who were on the same line, both admitted they tried not to. Often one hears on the line of some berries which could be bought a certain place at a much lower price than anywhere else
The woman overhearing, called and
had all the berries that were left
sent out. She had wanted some very bady at just that price.

Do you know the photographer is doing a remarkable good business these days with so many young ladies havings reproductions of themselves made? Of course the soldier wants erding June 30, according to figures made public by Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, amounted to \$4\$,-181,180, an increase of about 500 per cent, compared with the preceding year. Of this amount \$45,717,645 was a picture of his family to carry away and a picture of his best girl or his

mother and an old one won't do at all, , the Parkersburg Sentinel tells in the following way. Duri Dr. Williamson, his wife of ter, his mother and two-dren made a trip to the G It must be new-just like she is at the emoment of separation. I often wonder why the photographer is so popular and now I know. In my girl dren made a trip to the Oble
his auto on a ferry test operat
a gas engine. On the return to
driving chain on the heat slip
the wheel and the men were
less to operate the boat. It
drifting down stream toward to
There was not even an anchor
and the boat continued with t
toward the dam. Those mare
the auto, as well as all the of
the boat, were very badly frig
The boat shot over the breast
dam, but fortunately it went eve days I wanted a picture that was beautiful—a good looking picture, one which looked something like the mental judge I had of myself. I was really dissapointed! The photographer is a great judge of human nature and he can usually be depended upon to make a photograph to please. Why does a girl of sixteen want a pic-ture of herself to look like she was twenty? Why does a man of seventy want to look like thirty? Why does a woman of sixty cling madly to the idea that she looks only forty? And yet invaribly the photographer has to dam, but fortunately it went or about two feet, it got throug out an accident, to the great a everyone. Had it gous over a the boat no foubt would have remove all the lines and blemishesall shadows-all true likeness; in der to please his customer. If he were to take a picture just like the person who sits stiffly, all dressed up in his best, foot out just so, hand turtle. held little finger out-and with other mannerisms caught by the camera business about two months—no, I'll not be able able to give him that long—just about five weeks. I heard a woman say recently: "Now, you just leave all those lines in and don't retouch that icture at all—I think it is a wood likeness. When I want a mark a good likeness. When I want a work of art, I'll go to the art store and buy

BITS OF

STATE NEWS

Thursday. It looks like an immens. gold fish and none of the fishermen

who viewed the catch say they never

The collections of federal revenue

in West Virginia for the fiscal year

in income and excess profits taxes and \$2,463,635 in miscellaneous taxes, mostly on stogics and tobacco manufacturing in the Wheeling district.

saw anything like it.

Word has been received that B. May, who was superinten the water works in Shepherdat til he disappeared a coupl ago, has enlisted in the li having recently sailed from Mr. May's wife had be against him at Berteley non-support, whereauth h non-support, whereupon h "My friends want a picture of

Mr. H. T. Files, of near Jon Spring, Berkeley county, exhibits curlosity in the shape of a near his farm recently. The eight or nine pounds, is large as a man's head, as ures in miniature suggest a haby and the head of a distinct. The rock is creamd is 95.6 per cent lime, a percentage of magnesia. Saturday evening's Martinsburg Journal contained the following: Harry Norrish, of South Raleigh street, caught an cdd fish at the river

An effort was made in Saturday to patch up a po for Berkeley county and fair was not a sheesa means abandoned. The prit was explained by the World was that the Demo have one member of the and the commissioner on court who is to be elected the Republicans were to be selves one delegate to a and the superintendent schools.

A Belgian machine als will eat its veround at a rate of facturing in the Wheeling district.

Dr. Clarence Williamson and family, or Parkersburg, spent the Fourth on a visit to relatives at Ravenswood, and during their stay they figured in an unusual and alarming accident which

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE (BY CONDO)





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The Peoples National